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The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not think it is necessary that I should answer this question.”

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“ Sir, there are some other points also on which I should like to know what view the hon. the Chief Minister takes. That is, whether it is not a fact that with regard to this Bill the Government of India sent a despatch, and the Madras Government also sent a despatch. Was any suggestion made in that reply that this Bill, either in part or in whole, would be referred back for the reconsideration of this House ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I rather think that these questions do not at all arise out of Question No. 22-A. Question 22-A simply asks the Chief Minister to state whether his attention has been drawn to a leading article in the issue of the *Madras Mail* of Saturday, etc., and whether the statement made therein is correct. He has answered both these questions. Now, the hon. Member goes on and wants some information about the correspondence between the Governments of Madras and of India. Surely, that is not a supplementary question.”

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“ Sir, my humble submission is this : The hon. the Chief Minister now confesses that he gave a certain advice to His Excellency with regard to the gracious message which was delivered by you yesterday. Now, it is very important for us who are trying to understand the constitutional position adopted by the hon. the Chief Minister, to know on what date such advice was given and whether there was any indication previous to that, that he would be prepared to take the course now adopted. My submission is that you, Sir, lay down certain rules with regard to the legislative procedure ; and if the hon. the Chief Minister who is supposed to have the confidence that he is supposed to have enjoyed, could give His Excellency this advice, viz., that a certain measure for which he is supposed to have enjoyed the entire confidence of the former House would be referred back to this House, then this House, with due submission, may claim to exercise the same right. Sir, what I am trying to show is that the hon. the Chief Minister's position is untenable.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ We cannot have a general debate with regard to that matter.”

British Empire Exhibition.

22-B Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of money so far spent by the Government on the British Empire Exhibition of 1924, and

(b) the amount of money which, according to present calculation, will have to be spent hereafter on the said Exhibition ?

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ The amount already spent is Rs. 55,461 and the amount that is expected to be spent is Rs. 2,53,039.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Is the hon. the Minister quite certain as to the figures ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ That is what I gather from the office records.”

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Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" With your permission, Sir, I shall try to clear the situation. Though it may be that only Rs. 55,461 has been spent already, obligations must have been incurred which go much higher than that figure. I may say that it exceeds a lakh and odd rupees."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, I did not ask any such question."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" The hon. the President wanted to know whether the figures given by the hon. the Minister for Development were correct."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Probably I was in error—(laughter)—and my interruption was uncalled for."

III

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce that the following candidates have been nominated for election as representatives of the Council on the Board of Industries :—

Mr. J. A. Saldanha,
Mr. K. V. Ramachari,
Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu,
Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib,
Mr. Sami Venkatachala Chettiyar.

" As the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, viz., 2, election by means of single transferable vote has to be held. The Secretary will deliver to the Members a list of nominated candidates at 1-30 p.m. to-day and hon. Members are requested to vote for two candidates and return the voting papers to the Secretary before 11 a.m. to-morrow."

IV

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The SECRETARY laid on the table * G.O. No. 1054, Finance, dated 4th
11-15 a.m. December 1923, regarding the constitution of the Finance
Committee for the remainder of the year 1923-24.

V

MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

EXECUTION OF THE POLAVARAM ISLAND PROJECT IN THE GODAVARI DISTRICT.

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, I beg to move :—

2. *That this Council recommends to the Government the immediate execution of the irrigation scheme known as the Polavaram Island Project in the district of Godavari, the investigation of which has been completed in all its aspects.*

This scheme, Sir, relates to the island of Polavaram in the taluk of Amalapur in the Godavari district. It is an island in the sense that it is surrounded by

* Printed as Appendix on page 304 infra.